



Using podcasts to help students become knowledge-Able in a non-major biology course

Daniel L. Hajek

H. Tak Cheung

2013 CTLT Conference

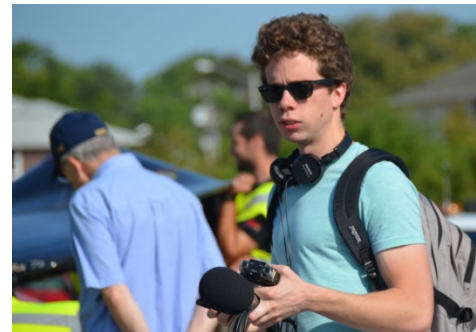
H. Tak Cheung

- Emeritus Professor of Microbiology
 - Director of School of Biological Sciences
- Developer, Instructor, and Originator of
 - BSC 101
 - Since 1995

BSC 101

Fundamental Concepts in Biology

- General Education Inner Core
- Natural Science Sequence
- Laboratory course
- Annual enrollment – 2,500 students
- Lectures (50 min) – twice each week
- Laboratory (1 hr 50 min) – once per week



Daniel L. Hajek

- Illinois State University Class of 2011
 - Major in English Studies
- Enrolled in BSC 101 Spring 2008
- Started work at WGLT in February 2008
 - Began working as a student announcer
 - Introduced to NPR programming

English Project

- Assigned to compose an essay emulating our favorite author's writing style
 - Produced a podcast segment
 - Featured Dr. Cheung and a discussion on bower birds



Course Podcast Project

- Stories related to topics discussed in class
- Interest and curiosity to the students
- Relevance and application in everyday life
- A student's perspective on biological topics
- Produced in the format of a radio program
- Titled "Your Place in the Universe"

Ants Dominate



Are Blue Whales Obese?



Podcast Production

- Interview with Dr. Cheung
 - Edit down audio clips
 - Research topics and integrate narration
 - Incorporate a soundtrack
- Uploaded each episode to our website
 - Monitored user feedback
- Produced 15 episodes

Student Feedback

- Raised interest in biology topics
- Created relevance in biological principles
- Found applications in everyday life
- Enjoyed having another student discussing biological topics
- Podcast preferred to be shorter (<5 to 6 min)

Season Two:

Biology Improves Your Life

- Designed to correlate with each lecture
- Produced two episodes a week
- Students were asked to listen to each episode before attending lecture
- 4-6 min in length
- Topics were introduced by stories of interest to students

Podcast Production

- Tight production schedule
- Collaboration through e-mail
- Rapid turn around time
 - Produced in 3 to 4 hours

Poulson Backs \$149 Million Street Bonds

The Weather

WARMER—Sunny today and tomorrow. Warmer today with high of 72. Light to moderate smog tomorrow.

LOS ANGELES EVENING MIRROR NEWS

FINAL CITY

N.Y. STOCKS

Vol. XI—No. 99 2* Largest Afternoon Home Delivery in the West In Three Parts TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1959 PART I 4* MA 5-2311—145 S. Spring, Los Angeles 53—TEN CENTS

TOP ROCK-ROLL TRIO KILLED IN AIRPLANE CRASH



—AP WIREPHOTO
NEGRO PUPILS ARRIVE AT STRATFORD JUNIOR HIGH, ARLINGTON
One of three police officers at entrance snaps scene with movie camera.

Bail Cut on Yanks in Tijuana

Bail on some of the 20 U.S. residents held in Tijuana on gambling charges has been reduced from \$1,600 to \$400 and on others to \$800, State Atty. Gen. Stanley Mosk was informed by telephone today. The alleged operator of the games was still held in lieu of \$3,200 bail.

BY PAUL COATES



RED ROADBLOCK
Where convoy was stopped.

Reds Halt U.S. Convoy From Berlin

BERLIN, Feb. 3 (P)—The Russians today held a U.S. Army convoy of four cargo trucks and five soldiers on the East German autobahn within sight of the West German border. The convoy was en route from Berlin to West Germany.

The U.S. Army charged that the convoy had been detained for more than 24

Valley Star Among Victims of Crackup Near Iowa Airport

MASON CITY, Ia., Feb. 3 (P)—Three of the country's top rock 'n' roll idols were killed early today when their chartered plane crashed shortly after taking off from the airport here.

Killed were Ritchie Valens, 17, of 13428 Remington St., Pacoima; Buddy Holly, 22, of Lubbock, Tex., and J. P. Richardson, 24, of New Orleans, known professionally as "Big Bopper."

Virginia's
Schools

Poulson Ok's
State Bonds

Brown Says

John Wayne Gacy

A black and white mugshot of John Wayne Gacy. He is a man with a mustache and a goatee, looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. He is wearing a light-colored, possibly white, collared shirt. In front of him is a dark rectangular sign with white text. The background is a light-colored, textured wall.

POLICE DEPT.
DES PLAINES, ILL.



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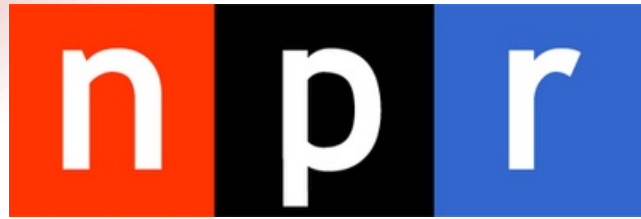
Student Responses

- Enjoyed the storytelling approach
- Found relevance of the biological concepts through the podcast
- Looked forward to the biological explanations provided in lecture
- Found the music interesting and stimulating
- Appreciated the use of technology embodied in the podcast



Internship

- Nationwide selection of internship candidates
- NPR-West, Los Angeles, CA
 - One intern per semester on National Desk
- My qualifications
 - Production experience with biology podcasts
- Duties:
 - Shadow reporters in the field
 - Help with story research and writing transcripts
 - In-field recordings



- L.A. Votes To Limit Vendors on Venice Boardwalk
 - All Things Considered*
- ‘Copiale Cipher:’ Mysterious Code Broken At Last
 - Weekend Edition Sunday*

Chance To Spot Rare Supernova Fading Fast

